

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE PATENT OPERATIONS

Art Unit:

1742

(Examiner: McNelis, Kathleen A)

Applicants:

STEPHEN M. POTTER

PEDRO GUTEMBERG QUARIGUASI NETTO

Serial No:

10/789,694

Filed:

February 27, 2004

Title:

COMBINED PRE-TREATMENT PROCESS FOR ENABLING FEED MATERIAL

TO BE CHARGED IN DIRECT REDUCTION PROCESS

Charlotte, North Carolina May 1, 2007

MS Amendment P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

Dear Sir:

In response to the Non-Final Office Action mailed February 7, 2007 Applicants submit the following amendment and remarks for the above identified application. Accordingly, reconsideration and allowance of the present application are respectfully requested.

Amendment of the Specification begins on page 2; Amendment of the Claims begins on page 3; Remarks begin on page 5; and Corrected Drawings are attached.